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### *Olethreutes mygindiana* (D.&S.) (Lep.: Tortricidae)

#### – new to Shropshire (V.C.40)

The status of the lepidoptera of Shropshire has been reviewed by Riley (*A Natural History of the Butterflies and Moths of Shropshire*, Swan Hill Press 1991). Although he deals in the main with macrolepidoptera, he includes an inventory of the microlepidoptera of which the more recent records tend to originate from Whixall Moss. Riley has updated his 1991 publication with significant additions and a corrigenda to the Shropshire list (Riley *et al* – *Entomologist's Gaz.* **45**: 167-182, 1994). Having been prompted by Riley's book to restart recording macrolepidoptera in the south-west corner of the county, I decided in the spring of 1994 to widen my interest to include micros. I am pleased to report that the fifth micromoth that I took in Shropshire was what I believe to be a first record for the county of *Olethreutes mygindiana* (D.&S.).

Over the late May Bank holiday we visited several sites on the west face of the Stiperstones, where warm and sunny conditions persisted for over five days. On the 29.v.1994 we collected a number of micros at an altitude of 430 metres in Mytton Dingle and Perkins Beach – an area covered with heather, and *Vaccinium*. Of the specimens collected one has now been identified as a well marked female of *Olethreutes mygindiana*, and another as a slightly worn female of the species. Two days later we found a male of the species at approximately the same altitude on Nipstone Rock (SO3596), an area recently cleared of conifers, but which now has a similar flora to that at Mytton Dingle and Perkins Beach.

*O. mygindiana* lays its ova on the lower leaves of *Vaccinium vitis-idaea* – Cowberry (Emmet – *A Field Guide to the Smaller British Lepidoptera*, B.E. & N.H.S., 1988), and as these sites are approximately 3.5 miles apart, it is quite probable that this species will be found the full length of the Stiperstones, where there are large tracts of the foodplant. In Shropshire, *Vaccinium vitis-idaea* is restricted to only seven 10 kilometre squares, with the majority of them being in the Stiperstones National Nature Reserve, where it is locally abundant. Other Shropshire sites for *Vaccinium vitis-idaea* include Puleston Bog, near Chetwynd and as single small colonies on Fenn's Moss, near Whitchurch (Sinker *et al*, *Ecological Flora of the Shropshire Region* – Shropshire Wildlife Trust, 1991).

The distribution of *O. mygindiana* outside Shropshire is noted by Bradley *et al* (*British Tortricoid Moths – Olethreutinae*, the Ray Society, 1979) as confined mainly to the hills and mountains of Staffordshire, Derbyshire, and in Wales, from Merioneth and Caernarvonshire. In Scotland it is widely distributed from Perthshire to Sutherland, and in Cheshire it is said to be locally fairly common at Bosley Cloud, Goyt Valley and Staley Brushes. Surprisingly there are no Cheshire specimens in the collection of the Liverpool Museum. Of the twenty-nine specimens in the Museum collection, eight carry data – all from Scottish localities. G.H. Conquest recorded five specimens between 26.v.1911 and 6.vi.1911 at Rannoch, Tayside and more recently B. Goater recorded two at Aviemore, Highland on the 27 and 29.v.1973, and one at Rannoch, Tayside on 8.vi.1973.

Thanks are due to Bryan Formestone and Mike Hull for their help in determining these specimens, and to Tom Wall of English Nature for providing access to the Stiperstones National Nature Reserve. Details of the Liverpool Museum records were kindly provided by Steve Judd and Mike Bigmore.– DR DAVID J. POYNTON, 1A Castlegate, Prestbury, Cheshire.

#### **A record of *Meganola albula* D.&S. (Lep.: Nolidae) from Oxfordshire**

A single example of the Kent Black Arches, *Meganola albula* was attracted to a Heath Trap sited at Hartslock Nature Reserve, Goring, Oxfordshire on 29th June 1994. The habitat is unspoilt chalk downland on a south-facing slope.– C.M. RAPER, 22 Beech Road, Purley-on-Thames, Reading, Berkshire RG8 8DS.